

A Creative Powerhouse for Bristol & the South-West

Jacobs Wells Baths
Recovery & Renovation
2025-2027

V5 – October 2025



Vision

To transform Jacobs Wells Baths into a dynamic Cultural and Creative Powerhouse that inspires community creativity, fosters civic collaboration, and drives cultural impact at a local, regional and national scale.

As a vital cornerstone of Central Bristol's creative and cultural landscape, the space will complement existing cultural infrastructure by filling a critical gap, enriching the arts ecology of the city, with a focus on dance and circus.

Mission

Through a phased capital works programme, we will reimagine Jacobs Wells Baths as a sustainable, cultural heritage hub – supporting young people with increased access to culture, building intergenerational connections through creative activities and providing a space for performances and artform development.

This ambitious recovery effort will deliver a state-of-the-art, accessible arts centre that honours the building's historic character while equipping it to host large-scale touring productions, immersive installations, and innovative cultural experiences.





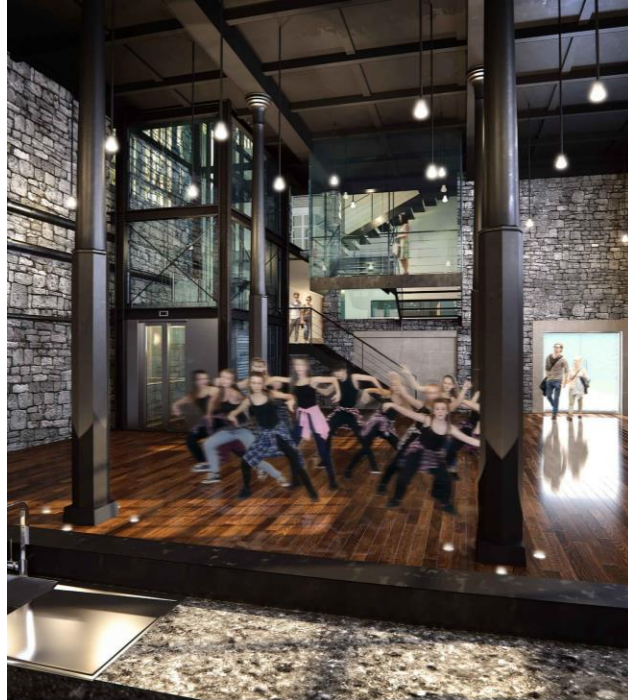
Context

"A vision for the building has emerged from this first stage feasibility as: **A vibrant, accessible and inclusive nationally and locally acclaimed hub for dance, performing arts, wellbeing and community development**" Vivid Regeneration, 2017

Building on previous consultation, our work has identified strong support for a multi-use hub with a focus on dance, circus, community and young people

Wider city research has identified high demand for large-scale dance and circus performance and rehearsal space in Bristol to support touring works





Need

Local Need

11,342 residents live near JWB, with no other secular community spaces in the area.

38% of households lack a car, emphasizing the importance of accessible, walkable amenities.

90% support JWB as a hub for arts, culture, and intergenerational health and wellbeing.

City Need

Bristol, with 472,000+ residents, lacks a dedicated 'home for dance.'

Dance is under-resourced despite its accessibility and proven health and economic benefits.

93% agree JWB is vital to Bristol, addressing the city's need for quality community dance spaces.





...journey so far

35-year lease completed **Sept 2024**, securing the long-term future of the site

Full condition surveys completed with Mann Williams and PH3 Design, including opening-up works, ecological assessments, and specialist surveys with input from an industrial heritage specialist

Over **£2.15m raised** from COF, Historic England, Nisbet Trust, NLHF, AHF + match funders

Phase 1 - Repairs

- Emergency holding works completed to the North Wing (HE funded)
- Asbestos decontamination and enabling works completed (Sept 2025)
- South Studio Roof works completed Oct 2025
- Main Roof works commencing with Carrek; AHF bid submitted to expand high-level masonry scope (decision Dec 2025)





What's next...

Preparing est £6m capital delivery plan for Phase 2 renovation works; NLHF Stage 2 application due **summer 2026**

Co-design consultation (Nov 2025) and work with artists and producers to showcase JWB's creative potential

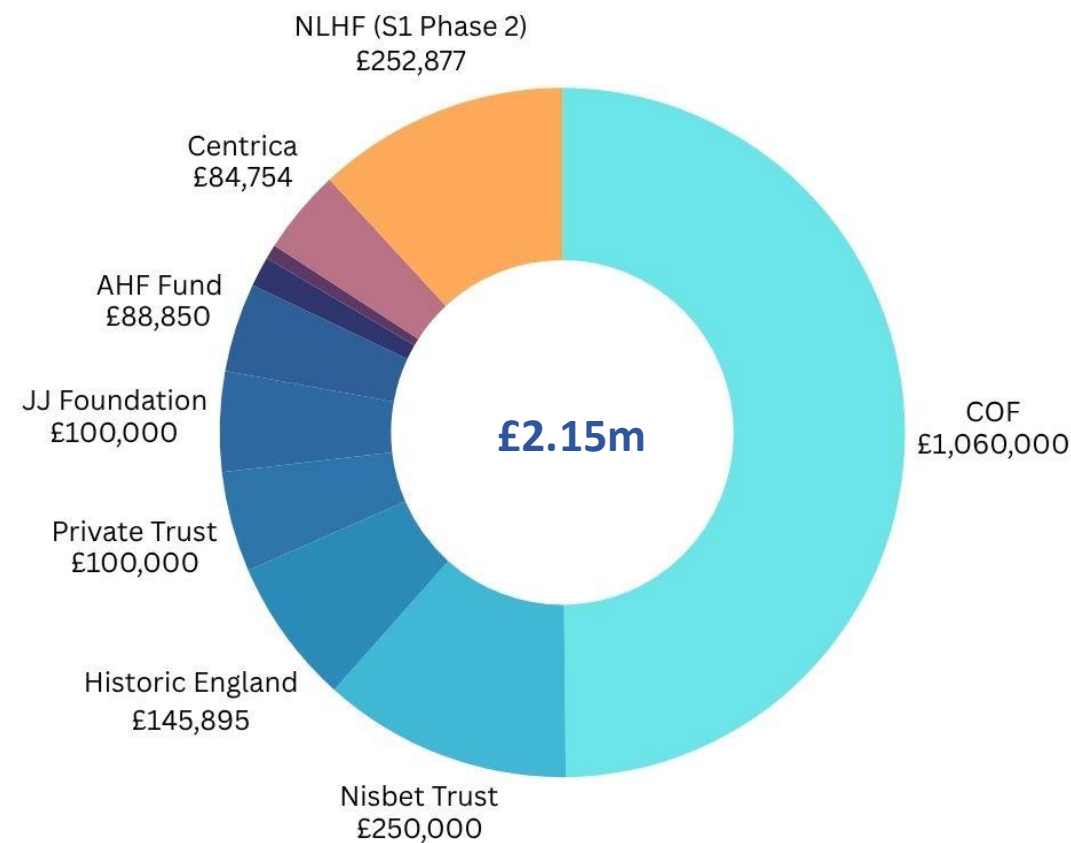
Plans include adapting the North Wing for intergenerational arts and learning

Community engagement through family drop-ins, reminiscence events, and school partnerships

Collaboration with UWE students and local schools informing future interpretation and design works



Budget



Phase 1 Repairs - works in progress



Phase 2 Renovation - Target

About Trinity

Our Mission: Providing communities with access to arts, creativity & culture

Why: We use the transformative power of art to enhance well-being, empower communities, foster inclusivity and stimulate local economies

What: We create opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to come together through a diverse programme of arts and cultural activities.

Impact: Individuals have joyful, inspirational experiences; making connections, developing skills and confidence and encouraging civic action and pride, reaching over 70,000 people annually

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